

ENKEL 8292
I.D. 50182.1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	PATENT
)	
LEIJON et al.)	Group:
)	
Serial No. 09/509,428)	Examiner:
)	
Filed: March 28, 2000)	DOCKET NO. 66291-162-2
)	
AN ELECTRIC POWER PLANT		HAND CARRIED

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

MAR 14 2002

RECEIVED

* * * * *

PETITION FOR SUSPENSION OF ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(a)
AND REQUEST FOR A SECOND SUSPENSION OF ACTION UNDER 37
C.F.R. § 1.103(a), PURSUANT TO MPEP 1002.02(c)9

Washington, D.C.
March 14, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that prosecution in the above-identified patent application be suspended for a period of six months under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(a). Applicants also request a second suspension of time for an additional six months, pursuant to MPEP § 1002.02(c)9, for a total of twelve months, beginning with the filing of the subject Petition.

As explained in MPEP § 709A, a petition for suspension of action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103 must:

- (a) be presented as a separate paper;
- (b) be accompanied by the petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(h);

- (c) request a specific and reasonable period of suspension not greater than six months; and
- (d) present good and sufficient reasons why suspension is necessary.

The present Petition complies with the above-identified requirements as it is (a) presented in a separate paper, (b) is accompanied by the petition fee, (c) requests a specific and reasonable period of suspension, initially six months, followed by a concurrent request for a second suspension of action for an additional six months, and (d) presents good and sufficient reasons why this suspension is necessary, as described below.

The subject patent application is one of more than 100 related U.S. patent applications, all of which contain related subject matter. These applications have been handled as a group within TC 2800 and have been handled according to special procedures as described in Paper No. 11 of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/147,325, which is the Office of the Deputy Assistant Commissioner for Patent Policy and Projects' "Response to Petition Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.82 Seeking Special Treatment Relating to an Electronic Search Tool, and Decision on Petition Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.183 Seeking Waiver of Requirements Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98." The basis of the special procedures is that all of the applications contain related subject matter.

During prosecution, a large majority of the applications, including the subject application, have been rejected based on common arguments. Rather than appeal all of the rejected cases to challenge these rejections, Applicants, after consulting with Director of TC 2800, Mr. Richard Seidel, and Supervisory Primary Examiner, Elvin Enad, are proceeding to appeal the rejections in at least Application Serial No. 08/873,019, since the issues being presented on appeal are relevant to the present application. Because it is unlikely that the claims in the present application will be allowed until the issues on appeal

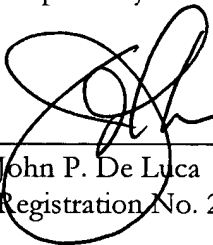
are resolved, Applicants respectfully request suspension of action by the Office in the subject application. Since the decision by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences will influence so many cases, a speedy decision is expected within the next 12 months. If a request for the second suspension is made herewith because it is unlikely that the decision will be made within the next six months. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that there are good and sufficient reasons why the suspension of action is necessary in this case.

There are no outstanding Office Actions in the present application at this time.

It is respectfully submitted that the present Petition meets the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(a). Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Petition to suspend action for six months be granted, and Applicant's Request for a second six month suspension of action also be granted.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 04-2223 in the amount of \$130.00. If additional fees are required which are not otherwise provided for, the undersigned authorizes the Commissioner to deduct such additional fees from Deposit Account No. 04-2223.

Respectfully submitted,



John P. De Luca
Registration No. 25,505

DYKEMA GOSSETT PLLC
1300 I Street N.W.
Suite 300 W
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 906-8600